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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLUS MO

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S SPEECH OF APRIL 8 ON LOS

REF: STATE 85109

MOROCCO

1. DURING FRIENDLY, 40-MINUTE INITIAL COURTESY CALL ON FONMIN LARAKI APRIL 15, I CARRIED OUT DEMARCHE ON LAW OF SEA PER REFTEL. I UNDERLINED SECRETARY'S PRESENCE IN N.Y. ON APRIL 8 TO DELIVER MAJOR ADDRESS INDICATED IMPORTANCE ADMINISTRATION ATTACHED TO CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS AND TO THEIR SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION THIS YEAR. ALSO STRESSED THAT IF NEGOTIATIONS COULD NOT BE CONCLUDED IN NEW YORK, ANOTHER SESSION SHOULD BE HELD DURING SUMMER TO ASSURE TIMELY AGREEMENT. LARAKI WAS PROVIDED DETAILED AIDE-MEMOIRE DRAWN FROM REFTEL AND COPY OF SECRETARY'S SPEECH IN FRENCH.

2. LARAKI, WHO HAD TO LEAVE FOR CABINET MEETING IN PREPARATION FOR DEPARTURE FOLLOWING DAY FOR DAKAR AFRO-ARAB FONMINS' MEETING, SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD TO STUDYING FULL TEXT OF SPEECH AND OUR AIDE MEMOIRE, AND WOULD PASS COPY TO RESPONSIBLE OFFICE IN MFA. HE COMMENTED THAT SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF NEGOTIATIONS ALSO IN MOROCCO'S INTEREST. HE NOTED IN PASSING THAT A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS SUCH AS STRAITS REMAINED TO BE WORKED OUT, BUT GAVE NO INDICATION HE VIEWED ANY OF THESE AS INSUPERABLE.

3. WE INTEND TO FOLLOW UP WITH MFA TECHNICAL LEVEL. ANDERSON

State Dept. review completed

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